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ENVI.2010 - Principles of Earth & Environmental Systems I

Study Questions XI

Glaciers and Glaciation

1. Describe the steps in the conversion of snow to glacial ice.

2. What characteristics distinguish temperate glaciers from polar glaciers?

3. Define lateral, medial, recessional, terminal and ground moraine.

4. Define snowline, equilibrium line and discuss the mass balance of a glacier.

5. Name and briefly describe five features that indicate an area has been glaciated by a valley glacier. Name and briefly describe five features that indicate an area has been covered by a continental glacier.

6. How does sea ice differ from glacial ice?

7. What is permafrost? What precautions must be taken when building structures in an area of permafrost?